

July 15, 1999

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Dockets Management Branch
Food and Drug Administration
DOCKET NO. 99D0557
Sirs;

I am writing to say I am against any Xenotransplant research. Responsible health authorities would ban all xenotransplants outright, regardless of the species, particularly because of the threats of inter-species virus transmission. Pigs are considered the animal of choice but there is no evidence that pigs are any safer than nonhuman primates. Pig viruses are just as dangerous as nonhuman primate viruses.

The US should follow Europe's lead. In January 1999, The Council of Europe, representing 40 European countries recommended a world wide ban on xenotransplants. There are safer and more humane alternatives to xenotransplantation.

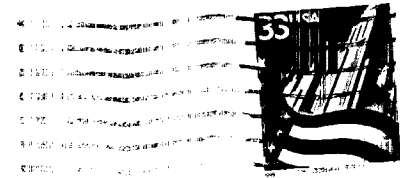
Sincerely

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